

Amendments to the Claims:

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

3. (Currently Amended) A contact assembly for supplying electrical power to a microelectronic workpiece during electrochemical processing of the microelectronic workpiece, the contact assembly comprising:

a plurality of an electrical contacts arranged along a perimeter area of ~~for~~  
~~providing an electrically conductive connection between the contact~~  
~~assembly and the microelectronic workpiece, wherein individual electrical~~  
contacts include a first section located outside of the perimeter area of the  
workpiece and projecting generally downward, a second section projecting  
inwardly from the first section to perimeter area of the workpiece, and a  
contact face at an end of the second section for contacting a processing  
surface of the workpiece upon which electrochemical processing is to  
occur; and

a yieldable sealing ~~systemmember having a rim portion proximate the electrical~~  
~~contacts, the rim portion being adapted and configured to pressbevel~~  
against the surface of the microelectronic workpiece as the  
microelectronic workpiece and the electrical contacts assembly are  
brought into engagement with one another in a manner that, the rim  
portion formingforms a seal against the processing surface of the  
microelectronic workpiece ~~toand~~ thereby inhibits the entry of processing  
fluid from contacting the contact faces of the contactst~~through a barrier~~  
~~which is defined between said yieldable sealing member and the surface~~  
~~of the microelectronic workpiece.~~

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A contact assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein  
said electrical contacts are ~~is~~ recessed with respect to the ~~rim portion of the yieldable~~

~~sealing system without a workpiece loaded in the contact assembly member, and said yieldable sealing member is adapted for deforming to enable the electrical contact to contact the surface of the microelectronic workpiece.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A contact assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein ~~the rim portion of the yieldable sealing system member is adapted to splay outward when said yieldable sealing member deforms during contact with the surface of the~~ microelectronic workpiece.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)